

REMARKS

The last Office Action has been carefully considered.

It is noted that Claims 22-31 and 33-36 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over the U.S. patent to Rice in view of the U.S. patent to Meyer et al.

At the same time the Examiner indicated that Claim 32 is allowable over the prior art of record.

The Examiner's grounds for the rejection of the claims have been carefully considered.

In connection with these Claims 22, 28, 35 and 36 have been cancelled.

The Examiner's indication of the allowance of Claim 32 has been gratefully acknowledged. In connection with this indication, Claim 32 has been retained as it was, and it is believed that it should be allowed.

Claims 22-27, 29-31, and 33-34 have been amended to depend directly or indirectly on Claim 32. The thusly amended dependent claims share the allowable features of Claim 32 and should be allowed as well.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application is most respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place this case in condition for final allowance, then it is respectfully requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment, and the case be passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance; he is invited to telephone the undersigned (at 631-549-4700).

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Striker
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 27233